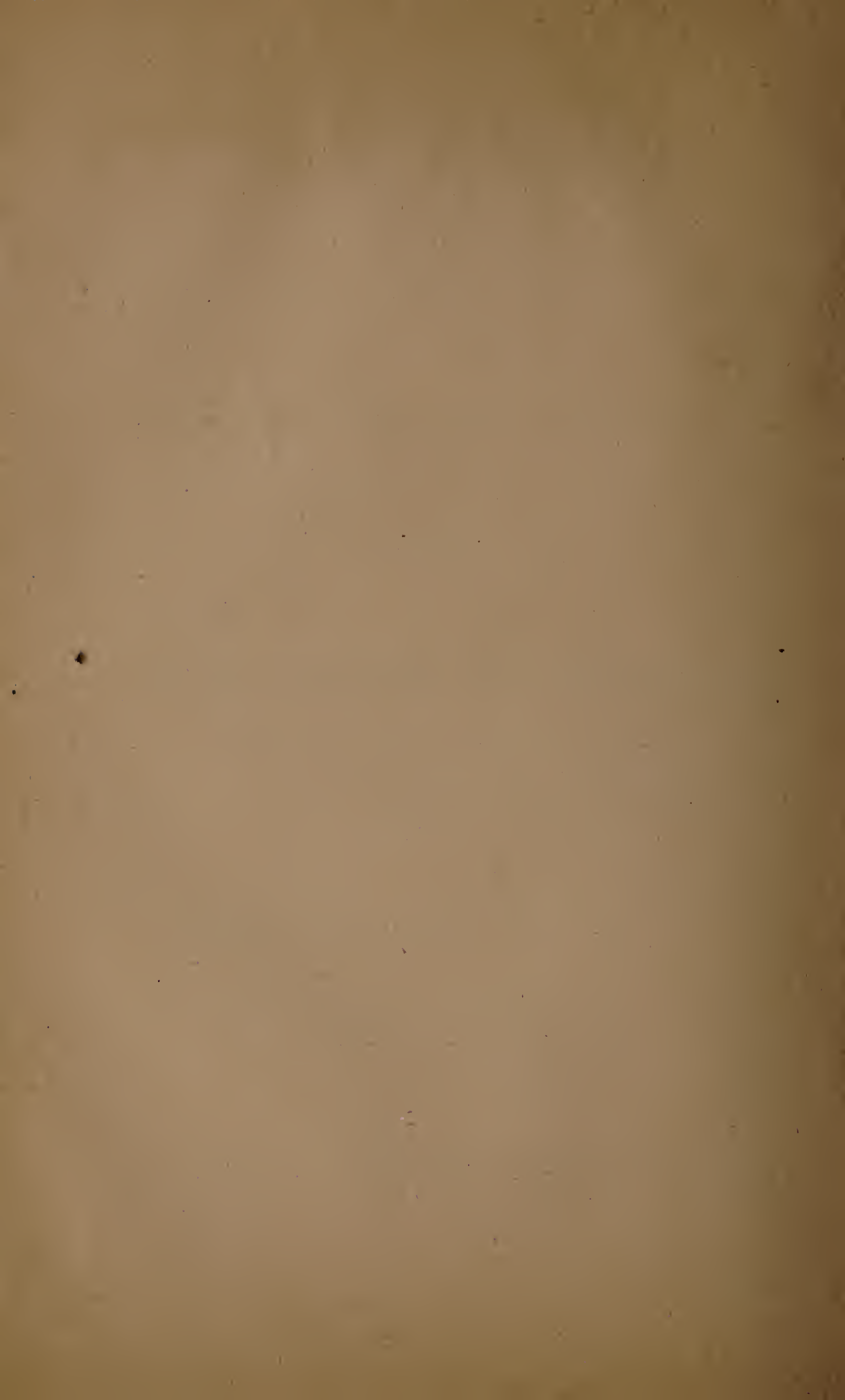


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF MERRIMAC,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

HAVERHILL, MASS.:
C. C. MORSE & SON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1883.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF MERRIMAC,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

HAVERHILL, MASS.:
C. C. MORSE & SON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1883.



ARTICLES IN WARRANT
FOR
Annual Meeting, Monday, March 5, 1883,
AT ONE O'CLOCK, P. M.

Art. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To choose a Town Clerk,

Art. 3. To choose Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.

Art. 4. To choose a Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, and fix the compensation for collection.

Art. 5. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to defray the necessary expenses and charges of the town for the ensuing year, and make appropriations for the same.

Art. 6. To choose one School Committee for three years.

Art. 7. To choose two Trustees of the Public Library for three years.

Art. 8. To see if the town will accept the Jury List as revised by the Selectmen.

Art. 9. To bring in their votes by ballot,—yes or no,—on the question, Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town.

Art. 10. On petition of Alex. Smart and others, To see if the town will appropriate the sum of seventy-five dollars to be expended under the direction of Post 114, G. A. R., for the proper observance of Memorial Day, May 30, 1883.

Art. 11. To choose Constables.

Art. 12. To choose Highway Surveyors.

Art. 13. To choose Surveyors of Lumber and Measurers of Wood and Bark.

Art. 14. To choose Fence Viewers and Field Drivers.

Art. 15. To choose all other necessary Town Officers.

Art. 16 To see if the town will authorize their Treasurer, under the direction of the Selectmen, to hire money in anticipation of taxes if necessary, or to refund any portion of the town debt.

Art. 17. To see what discount, if any, the town will allow for the prompt payment of taxes, and to fix the time for the payment of taxes.

Art. 18. To see what interest, if any, the town will charge on taxes remaining unpaid after the time fixed for the payment thereof.

Art. 19. On petition of G. W. Kendrick and others, "To see if the town will vote to build a sidewalk on Locust Street, commencing at Pleasant Street and continuing to the River Road."

Art. 20. To see what action the town will take towards providing additional school accommodations either by building a school house or otherwise, and make the necessary appropriations therefor.

Art. 21. To see if the town will adopt a code of truancy by-laws.

Art. 22. To see what action, if any, the town will take in regard to the letting of Sargent Hall.

Art. 23. To see if the town will vote to build a pound and if so to fix the location thereof. Also to see if the town will vote to sell the lock-up.

Art. 24. To see if the town will vote to restrain neat cattle and horse kind from running at large.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

SCHOOLS AT MERRIMAC CENTER—TEACHER'S PAY.

HIGH SCHOOL.

F. Wiggin, principal,	\$950 00	
Helen K. Spofford, assistant,	361 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,311 00

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Ellen Gunnison,	360 00
-----------------	--------

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

Mary Ella Hoyt,	306 25
-----------------	--------

FIRST PRIMARY.

Carrie M. Evans,	255 00
------------------	--------

SECOND PRIMARY.

Josephine L. Oak,	255 00
-------------------	--------

MUSIC TEACHER.

Stella C. Larkin,	62 00
-------------------	-------

INCIDENTALS.

S. S. Blodgett, coal,	\$126 49	
J. E. Currier, wood,	10 00	
J. Sheridan, sawing wood,	6 50	
	<hr/>	142 99

F. H. True, clock,	\$5 00	
Post 114, G. A. R., 2 settees,	4 00	
N. E. School Furnishing Co., furniture,	15 00	
A. G. Whitcomb, furniture,	9 80	
C. H. Fellows & Co., call bell.	1 37	
F. W. Jacobs, matting,	8 50	
A. W. Cram, wash bowl and fixtures,	6 18	
F. Wiggin, blackboard erasers,	10 00	
J. L. Hammett, supplies,	23 45	
H. J. Cushing, "	6 71	
W. W. Lydston, "	35 20	
J. D. Pike, "	4 84	
B. F. Carter, organ,	40 00	
	<hr/>	\$170 05
John Flannigan, repairs,	\$2 87	
Wm. Jones, "	61 10	
Hamilton & Noyes, "	10 44	
Heath Bros., "	17 67	
H. J. Cushing, "	75	
W. H. Thomas, "	90	
W. W. Lydston, "	2 00	
D. E. Wadleigh, "	1 95	
F. Wiggin, slating blackboards,	8 50	
E. Sheridan, labor,	1 75	
J. Lawton, "	6 00	
F. H. True, cleaning clocks,	1 50	
	<hr/>	115 43

CARE OF SCHOOL ROOMS, ETC.

W. L. Smart,	\$3 75	
Everett M. Heath,	46 50	
E. R. P. Fourtin,	51 55	
H. J. Cushing, paid for cleaning,	9 96	
	<hr/>	111 76

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

7

THIRD PRIMARY—TEACHERS' PAY.

Fannie L. Sherman,	\$78 00	
Etta H. Colby,	111 80	
	<hr/>	\$189 80

INCIDENTALS.

S. S. Blodgett, coal,	\$16 38	
J. E. Currier, wood,	3 75	
J. Sheridan, sawing wood,	1 50	
	<hr/>	21 63
L. Kimball & Son, call bell,	\$1 87	
J. H. Cleary, supplies,	1 75	
N. E. School Furnishing Co., supplies,	33 00	
Wm. Jones, repairs,	1 00	
F. H. True, cleaning clock,	15	
	<hr/>	37 77
Herbert C. Colby, care of room,	\$14 50	
T. H. Hoyt, paid for cleaning,	1 00	
E. P. Sargent, Treas., rent of room,	40 00	
	<hr/>	55 50
		<hr/>
Total expense of Schools at Center,		\$3,394 18

MERRIMACPORT SCHOOLS.

TEACHERS' PAY.

Charles S. Davis, Grammar,	\$270 00	
Edwin S. Bailey, “	110 00	
Mary E. Rogers, “	35 00	
	<hr/>	\$415 00
N. Florence Carleton, Intermediate,	\$271 75	
Annie M. Collins, Primary,	255 00	
	<hr/>	941 75

INCIDENTALS.

Blaisdell & Huntington, coal,	\$73 94	
J. W. Colby, wood,	4 00	
D. F. Morrill & Son, wood,	6 00	
C. H. Hughes, sawing wood,	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$87 94
J. H. Cleary, supplies	\$2 76	
N. E. School Furnishing Co., supplies,	4 40	
A. M. Lang, supplies,	72	
Wm. Chase, "	4 50	
C. E. Rowell, "	9 39	
Prescott Bros., lightning rods,	6 00	
	<hr/>	27 87
James Whittier, repairs,	\$32 55	
Wm. Jones, "	20 65	
Wm. Chase, "	28 50	
J. P. Ransom, "	6 30	
F. H. True, repairing clock,	75	
	<hr/>	88 75
Newton Large, care of room,	\$5 00	
Hughes and Parker, " "	9 00	
Bailey Bros., " "	7 84	
J. Preble, " "	3 53	
Wm. Chase, paid for cleaning and care,	35 00	
	<hr/>	60 37
	<hr/>	
Total expense for Schools at Merrimacport,	\$1,206 68	

BEAR HILL SCHOOL.

TEACHERS' PAY.

Lina A. Sherman,	\$210 00	
Mabel L. Jones,	75 00	
	<hr/>	\$285 00

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

9

INCIDENTALS.

Geo. W. Sargent, wood,	\$14 50	
Willie Chaff, sawing wood,	3 75	
	<hr/>	\$18 25
M. S. Gibbs, repairs,	\$3 50	
Z. J. Morin, "	2 60	
Wm. Jones, "	1 50	
S. Quimby, "	3 00	
H. J. Cushing, supplies,	1 60	
	<hr/>	12 20
Willie Chaff, care of house,	\$14 50	
James Doyle, cleaning house,	2 00	
	<hr/>	16 50
		<hr/>
Total,		\$331 95

LANDING SCHOOL.

Mattie A. Hughes, teacher,	\$143 00
----------------------------	----------

INCIDENTALS.

D. F. Morrill & Son, wood,	\$5 00	
Charles. H. Hughes, sawing wood,	75	
	<hr/>	5 75
W. W. Lydston, supplies,	\$18 52	
N. E. School Furnishing Co., supplies,	17 25	
F. H. True, cleaning and repairing clock,	1 25	
	<hr/>	37 02
James Whittier, repairs,	\$23 87	
Hamilton and Noyes, repairs,	32 21	
Wm. Jones, repairs,	14 50	
Wm. M. Morrill, labor,	2 80	
	<hr/>	73 38

Mattie A. Hughes, care of room,	\$6 50	
Wm. Chase, paid for cleaning room,	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$8 50
Total,		<hr/> \$267 65

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL.

Bessie Veal, teacher,	143 00
-----------------------	--------

INCIDENTALS.

L. E. Bancroft, wood,	\$6. 88	
Geo. F. Jenkins, sawing wood,	2 25	
	<hr/>	9 13
John Jenkins, repairs,	\$1 40	
Geo F. Jenkins, repairs,	1 25	
F. H. True, cleaning clock,	75	
	<hr/>	3 40
Geo. F. Jenkins, care of room,	\$5 55	
Mrs. Jenkins, cleaning room,	1 25	
	<hr/>	6 80
Total,		<hr/> \$162 33

BIRCH MEADOW SCHOOL.

Ella F. Willey, teacher,	\$143 00
--------------------------	----------

INCIDENTALS.

J. E. Currier, wood,	\$3 50	
M. W. Thompson, wood and sawing,	3 75	
	<hr/>	7 25
M. S. Gibbs, repairs,	\$1 70	
M. W. Thompson, care of room,	5 55	
T. H. Hoyt, paid for cleaning room,	1 00	
	<hr/>	8 25
Total,		<hr/> \$158 50

GENERAL SCHOOL INCIDENTALS.

C. C. Morse & Son, school books,	\$16 30	
J. L. Hammett, " "	5 59	
James A. Hale, paper,	10 01	
F. H. True, printing,	7 25	
B. & M. R. R., freight,	1 05	
T. H. Hoyt, postage,	75	
H. J. Cushing, expense,	34	
E. W. Ricker, books and stationery,	36 67	
	<hr/>	\$77 96
Total,		\$5,599 25
Town appropriation,	\$5,250 00	
Income Mass. School Fund,	189 59	
Dog Fund,	134 17	
Overdrawn,	25 49	
	<hr/>	5,599 25
To the above there is to be added the cost of a school		
house lot, bought of estate of J. P. Sargent,		
for which no appropriation was made,		
		212 50
		<hr/>
Making total expense in School Department,		\$5,811 75

POOR ACCOUNT.

Paid town of Amesbury for support of Poor as follows :

Board, medical attendance and funeral ex-

penses, Dolly Sargent, \$274 75

Board of Eliza Patten, 104 00

" " W. A. Buzzell and child, 4 00

MILITARY SETTLEMENTS.

Support of McCabe children,	\$96 10	
“ “ Mrs. Laroche,	39 20	
	<hr/>	
Total paid Amesbury for Poor,		\$518 05
Paid City of Newburyport supplies to Caroline Sargent,		24 75
Paid A. P. Chaples board of Ann M. Waining,		104 00
Mary Pressy, house rent to Smith Quimby,		48 00
J. D. Pike, supplies to W. Folds,		5 20
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,		
Wm. Addison,		1 00

SUPPORT OF R. S. PATTEN.

Blaisdell & Huntington, coal,	\$38 68	
C. E. Rowell, supplies,	83 12	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	20 00	
R. A. Sargent, supplies,	2 25	
A. M. Lang, “	2 11	
	<hr/>	
		146 16

SUPPORT OF MARY ANN SARGENT.

Blaisdell & Huntington, coal and wood,	\$48 01	
C. E. Rowell, supplies,	5 95	
A. M. Lang, “	2 90	
	<hr/>	
		56 86

SUPPORT OF CHILDREN OF O. W. GRAY.

Paid H. Maria Gray for board,	138 79
-------------------------------	--------

SUPPORT OF ALFRED C. HOYT.

Paid Danvers Lunatic Hospital, board and clothes,	185 53
“ “ “ “ for support of inmate, (to be refunded.)	170 01

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

13

SUPPORT OF W. A. BUZZELL AND CHILD.

R. A. Sargent, supplies,	\$2 75	
N. E. Collins, “	8 25	
Albert Sargent, bills paid,	19 00	
	<hr/>	\$30 00
Dr. W. H. Gerrish, attending poor,		40 00
F. E. Hall, supplies to lock-up,		1 35

INDIGENT SOLDIERS.

James Roe,	\$52 54	
John Jenkins,	39 42	
	<hr/>	91 96

Total for Poor, \$1,561 66

Deduct from this

Due from State on acct. of indigent soldiers,	\$45 98	
for support of inmate at Danvers,	170 01	
Received from Amesbury acct. of Jenkins,	11 83	
Estate of A. C. Hoyt,	141 14	
State, account State Paupers,	1 75	
	<hr/>	370 71

Balance expense maintaining Poor, \$1,190 95

Appropriation,	\$1,200 00	
Unexpended,	9 05	
	<hr/>	\$1,190 95

HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.

District No. 1, W. H. Blodgett, Surveyor.

Expended by Surveyor,	\$419 45
D. E. Wadleigh,	6 02

Heath Bros., snow plough,	\$2 50	
W. B. Chapman, labor on drains,	27 81	
	<hr/>	
	\$455 78	\$455 78
Apportionment,	550 00	
Balance unexpended,	94 22	

REMOVING SNOW.

J. L. Merrill, bill 1881,	\$20 40	
B. H. Battis, " "	6 36	
W. H. Blodgett,	20 60	
	<hr/>	
		47 36

District No. 2, Moses Stevens, Surveyor.

Expended by Surveyor,	\$404 00	
Apportionment,	350 00	
	<hr/>	
Overdrawn,	\$54 00	

REMOVING SNOW.

M. Stevens, bill 1881,	\$35 67	
M. Stevens, bill 1882,	29 00	
	<hr/>	
		64 67

District No. 3, J. J. Woodman, Surveyor.

Expended by Surveyor,	\$249 30	
Apportionment,	250 00	
	<hr/>	
Unexpended balance,	70	

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

15

Expended by Surveyor on railing,	\$33 30
----------------------------------	---------

REMOVING SNOW.

J. Harlan Colby, bill 1881,	\$1 95	
J. J. Woodman,	7 20	
	<hr/>	9 15

District No. 4, J. C. Tucker, Surveyor.

Expended by Surveyor,	\$101 30	
G. W. Hoyt, rebuilding bridge,	10 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$111 30	111 30
Apportionment,	\$150 00	
	<hr/>	
Unexpended balance,	\$38 70	

REMOVING SNOW.

J. C. Tucker, bill 1881,	10 80
--------------------------	-------

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES IN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

Fiske & Coleman, drain tile,	\$78 28	
Hanscom Bros., " "	24 25	
George Tyler, road machine,	154 39	
B. & M. R. R., freight,	8 85	
G. W. Nichols, surveying streets,	6 00	
Town of Amesbury on Rocks Bridge,	77 56	
" " Essex M. Bridge,	146 51	
	<hr/>	495 84
		<hr/>
Total expense Highway Department,	\$1,881 50	

Appropriation,	\$1,800 00	
Overdrawn,	81 50	
	<hr/>	\$1,881 50

EXPENSE ABATING NUISANCE.

J. L. Blaisdell, labor,	\$496 92
W. H. Blodgett, teaming,	7 90
Geo. Currier, brick,	112 00
R. W. Patten, "	4 00
J. E. Currier, sand,	3 75
S. A. Adams, drain tile,	51 70
G. D. Goodrich & Co., drain tile,	340 89
S. S. Blodgett, cement,	46 00
M. S. Gibbs, labor and stock,	31 95
D. A. Moulton, labor and stock,	11 75
Fulton Iron Foundry, grates,	68 00
W. A. Manufacturing Co., stock,	7 00
W. B. Chapman, labor,	65 57
J. H. Davis, survey,	15 00
C. E. Little, horse-hire,	4 00
Albert Sargent, services,	25 00
" " bills paid,	18 90
John Cleary, services,	25 00
P. Chase, "	6 00
Bailey Sargent, "	10 00
F. E. Hall, lighting streets,	5 00
J. B. Swett, Commissioner,	60 00
Geo. Turner, "	62 10
. S. Chase, "	50 00

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

17

M. Perry Sargent, services,	\$60 00	
Officers and witness fees,	52 75	
B. & M. R., freight,	92 13	
	<hr/>	
	\$1,733 31	
Deduct for drain pipe on hand,	73 08	
	<hr/>	
Total cost,		\$1,660 23
Assessed on abutters,	\$385 00	
Cost to the town,	1,275 23	
	<hr/>	\$1,660 23

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Appropriation,		\$1,000 00
Paid Niagara Engine Co.,	\$502 49	
Agile Engine Co.,	452 50	
	<hr/>	\$954 99
Unexpended balance,	45 01	
	<hr/>	\$1,000 00

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Regular appropriation,	\$500 00	
Appropriated for additional accommodations,	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$700 00
Paid Wm. H. Hubbard, Treasurer,	\$500 00	
Heath Brothers, for shelves,	80 00	
Unexpended balance,	120 00	
	<hr/>	\$700 00

STATE AID.

Ann Edwards,	\$48 00	
Harriet C. Flanders,	48 00	
T. S. Bradley,	18 00	
Wm. F. Martins,	72 00	
Hannah P. Tozier,	48 00	
Rebecca Kennett,	48 00	
Geo. F. Bailey,	36 00	
Mary E. G. Gay,	48 00	
John Jenkins,	6 00	
	<hr/>	\$372 00

POLICE.

John B. Heath,	\$60 00	
F. E. Hall,	40 00	
P. J. Neal,	30 00	
	<hr/>	130 00

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.

EXPENSES ON SARGENT HALL.

William Jones, repairs,	\$22 15
W. W. Lydston, "	32 71
D. E. Wadleigh, "	13 15
M. S. Gibbs, "	40 33
N. L. Howe, "	3 60
J. V. Holt, "	3 50

Heath Bros., repairs,	\$1 20	
W. H. Blodgett, labor,	4 95	
Frye & Clement, brick,	61 20	
Geo. Currier, “	20 00	
D. A. Moulton, lumber,	11 75	
W. B. Chapman, labor,	259 59	
Robert Driscoll, slating,	26 72	
Howard Clock Co., repairing clock,	10 00	
S. S. Blodgett, Coal,	14 27	
G. W. Woodman, charcoal,	2 75	
R. A. Sargent, Janitor,	51 25	
“ “ care of clock,	12 00	
	<hr/>	591 12

PORTRAIT WM. P. SARGENT.

Lyell Carr,	225 00	
L. R. Menzer, frame,	50 75	
M. S. Gibbs, labor and stock,	2 52	
	<hr/>	278 27

Geo. H. Connor, care of lamp 2 years,	\$24 00
C. E. Rowell, supplies to “	3 03
Wm. Chase, com. on fire apparatus,	25 00
I. B. Little, “ “ “ “	10 00
J. E. Currier, hauling engine to fire	2 50
J. Oak, “ “ “ “	8 00
Geo. W. Currier, town warrant,	7 00
C. C. Morse & Son, printing town reports,	46 00
Post 114, G. A. R., Memorial Day,	68 04
M. Haggerty, burying carrion,	1 00
P. J. Neal, “ “	1 00

F. H. True, printing,	\$5 75	
C. W. Damon, plans for school house,	50 00	
J. J. Woodman, care of lower cemetery,	5 00	
G. W. Currier & Co., printing,	1 35	
C. E. Little, horse hire,	14 00	
W. H. Blodgett, teaming,	9 60	
J. B. Heath, return of deaths,	8 25	
“ “ notifying town officers,	2 00	
Little's Express, sundries and expressing,	12 75	
Bailey Sargent, census of scholars, postage, &c.	10 20	
John Cleary, use of horse	10 00	
		<hr/>
		324 47
		<hr/>
Total,		\$1,193 86
Appropriations, Miscellaneous,	\$600 00	
“ Portrait, Wm.		
P. Sargent,	300 00	
		<hr/>
		\$900 00
Overdrawn,		293 86
		<hr/>
		\$1,193 86

CEMETERY ACCOUNT.

John B. Heath, in Account with Merrimac Burial Ground.

Dr.

Balance from last year's account,	\$197 18
Interest,	11 54
	<hr/>
	\$208 72

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

21

Mar. 21,	Sale of lot No. 139,	\$20 00	
31,	" 136,	20 00	
	" wood,	2 00	
Sept. 5,	" lot 137,	20 00	
15,	" 141,	17 00	
16,	" 129,	10 00	
Oct. 5,	" 140,	35 00	
Jan. 15,	" 142,	17 00	
23,	" 143,	15 00	
		<hr/>	156 00
			<hr/>
			\$364 72

Cr.

July 27,	W. W. Lydston, pump,	\$7 00	
	Mowing cemetery,	8 00	
Aug. 12,	W. H. Blodgett, hauling gravel,	33 00	
	Repairing fence,	40	
Sept. 5,	D. B. Mozier, labor,	19 65	
6,	John E. Currier, hauling gravel,	57 75	
	J. B. Heath, services,	5 20	
		<hr/>	131 00
	Balance deposit in bank,		233 72
			<hr/>
			\$364 72

SCHOOL BOOKS FURNISHED BY COMMITTEE.

J. A. Perry,	\$1 20
S. Evans,	4 30
J. O'Brien,	15

J. Patten,	15	
Jas. Doyle,	4 07	
	<hr/>	\$9 87

TOWN OFFICERS.

Albert Sargent, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor,	\$200 00	
John Cleary, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor,	125 00	
Phineas Chase, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor,	125 00	
H. J. Cushing, School Committee,	50 00	
T. H. Hoyt, " "	50 00	
William Chase, " "	50 00	
Bailey Sargent, Treasurer and Collector,	225 81	
" Town Clerk,	68 55	
" Constable, warning meetings,	12 00	
	<hr/>	\$906 36
Appropriation,	\$800 00	
Overdrawn,	106 36	\$906 36

NOTE AND INTEREST ACCOUNT.

Paid town of Amesbury 2-5 interest on Notes and Bonds,	\$880 00
Discount on taxes,	652 92

ABATEMENTS.

Collector's list, 1878,	\$12 00		
“ “ 1879,	11 27		
“ “ 1880,	57 54		
“ “ 1881,	75 30		
“ “ 1882,	49 65	205 76	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	\$1,738 68
Appropriation,	\$1,600 00		
Overdrawn,	138 68		
	<hr/>		\$1,738 68

REPORT OF THE JANITOR OF SARGENT HALL.

During the year the hall has been opened thirty-seven times,
as follows :

Political meetings and caucuses,	5
Town meetings,	3
Temperance meetings,	9
Concerts,	6
Entertainments,	3
Lectures,	6
Miscellaneous,	5
	<hr/>
	37
Cash received for use of hall,	\$133 00

POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT.

Number of arrests during the year :

For disturbance,	3
“ assault,	2

For drunkenness,	2
“ larceny,	1
Number of times called to quell disturbance,	12
“ assisted home under the influence of liquor,	12
“ times called for other purposes,	33

TREASURER AND COLLECTOR'S ACCOUNT.

Dr.

1882.

March 1.	To uncollected taxes,	\$3,957 30	
	“ cash,	3,227 55	
		—————	\$7,184 85
Feb. 28,	Rec'd of State Treas. Corp. tax,		239 85
March 9,	“ A. M. Webster, for school books,		22
14,	Newburyport, support P. Whalan,		7 75
Dec. 10,	State Treas. Corp. tax,	508 80	
	“ Nat. Bk. “	215 64	
	“ State Aid,	374 00	
	“ Indigent Sol.	91 22	
	“ State Paup.	1 75	
		—————	1,191 41

1883.

Jan. 10.	Rec'd of County Treas. dog money,		134 17
	J. P. Sargent's est. sew. ass.	50 00	
	“ “ for tile,	2 55	
		—————	52 55
26,	State Treas. Income School Fund,		189 59
Feb. 13,	for support of inmate at Danvers Asy.		26 74
	of Amesbury for Bank and		
	Corp. taxes,	78 14	

of Amesbury, support of J.

Jenkins,	11 83	
	<hr/>	89 97
1st Nat. B'k, 1 year's rent,	275 00	
G. E. Ricker, "	250 00	
R. A. Sargent, "	225 00	
Janitor Sargent's Hall,	133 00	883 00
Estate of A. C. Hoyt,		141 14
Tax List 1882, committed for collection,	17,131 59	
Re-assessments,	71 20	
	<hr/>	17,202 79
Interest on taxes,		9 03
		<hr/>
		\$27,353 06

Cr.

By paid State Tax,	\$1,120 00	
" County Tax,	914 39	
" National Bank Tax,	1,119 39	
" Selectmen's orders,	16,873 98	
Uncoll. Taxes, 1879,	\$104 52	
" " 1880,	255 44	
" " 1881,	779 39	
" " 1882,	2,721 01	
	<hr/>	3,860 36
Cash on hand,	3,464 94	
	<hr/>	\$27,353 06

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The town is indebted as follows:

Two-fifths Amesbury Bonds,	\$8,000 00
----------------------------	------------

Two-fifths Amesbury Notes,	\$8,000 00
Interest on Notes and Bonds,	180 00
Engine Companies,	917 80
Outstanding demands,	200 00
	——— \$17,297 80

Cr.

Due from State for State and Military Aid,	\$513 47
for support of inmate at Danvers,	143 27
Uncollected Taxes,	3,860 36
Cash on hand,	3,464 94
	——— 7,982 04
	—————
Town Debt, March 1, 1883,	\$9,315 76
Town Debt, March 1, 1882,	\$9,388 69
Reduction of debt,	72 93
	——— \$9,315 76

ALBERT SARGENT,	} Selectmen of Merrimac.
PHINEAS CHASE,	
JOHN CLEARY.	

RECAPITULATION OF ORDERS DRAWN.

Schools,	\$5,811 75
Poor, including indigent soldiers,	1,561 66
Highways,	1,881 50
Abating nuisance,	1,733 31
Fire department	954 99
Public Library,	580 00
State aid,	372 00
School Books,	9 87

Note and int. acct., dis. and abatement,	1,738 68
Town officers and police,	1,036 36
Miscellaneous,	1,193 86
	<hr/>
	\$16,873 98

STATISTICS FROM VALUATION BOOK.

	1881	1882
Valuation of real estate,	\$702,830	\$726,325
“ “ pers. prop.,	396,916	395,530
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,099,746	\$1,121,855 gain \$22,109

Number of polls, 702	
Rate on polls, \$2 00	
Rate of taxation, \$13 00 per \$1000,	
Total tax assessed,	\$15,958 11
Non resident bank valuation,	87,960 00
Tax on same,	1,143 48
Number of acres of land, 5,071.8	

	1881	1882
“ “ dwellings,	425	430
“ “ horses,	258	252
“ “ cows,	195	215
“ “ sheep,	41	33

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

Sargent Hall,	\$20,000 00
School Houses,	18,000 00
Public Library,	2,500 00
Fire Apparatus,	2,000 00
Cemeteries, hearse and house,	1,700 00
Town-landing, lockup, etc.,	300 00
Town standards,	150 00
Law reports,	350 00
	<hr/> \$45,000 00

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT.

14,327 books have been taken from the library during the past year. The fines for keeping out books beyond the regular time have amounted during the past year to forty-one dollars and forty-four cents. The rigid enforcement of the rules concerning fines has had a good effect in the community. Additional shelf room has been put into the library under the direction of a special committee consisting of Messrs. I. B. Little and George Adams, at an expense of about half the appropriation voted for this purpose by the town. We have received a valuable addition to our library from its liberal patron Dr. James R. Nichols, in the gift of a new edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica. We have also received from the estate of Deacon A. E. Goodwin two hundred dollars "to be spent as the trustees may desire." The trustees have deposited this money in the Merrimac Savings Bank, the income to be spent in books. The Trustees of the Public Library require of the town an appropriation of five hundred (500) dollars for the library for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Trustees.

WM. H. HUBBARD, Secretary.

ALBERT SARGENT,	}	Trustees of Public Library.
GEORGE ADAMS,		
WILLIAM CHASE,		
DR. JAMES R. NICHOLS,		
W. H. HUBBARD,		
GEORGE O. GOODWIN,		
ISAAC B. LITTLE.	}	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

For the year ending March 1, 1883. Merrimac Public Library in account with Wm. H. Hubbard, Treasurer.

Dr.

To cash paid for printing,	16 30	
" binding books,	18 69	
" Librarian,	175 00	
" Sec. and Treas.,	5 25	
" books and magazines,	346 23	
	<hr/>	561 47
cash on hand,		4 50
		<hr/>
		\$565 97

Cr.

By cash on hand March 1, 1883,	3 75	
" received for books sold at auction,	20 78	
" " from fines,	41 44	
" " Town appropriation,	500 00	
	<hr/>	565 97

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Trustees.

WM. H. HUBBARD, Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC.

In compliance with law and custom the School Committee submit their Annual Report for the year ending March 1st, 1883.

No report can be of greater importance than the one concerning our schools. Your committee are glad to say that the school year now closing has been quite successful. Many of the schools have done good and satisfactory work in which the teachers have shown themselves competent and able to comprehend the little things necessary to make a school a success. In a few of them, while there is much to approve, and not much to complain of, they do not come up to that standard of excellence we all want to see.

School Statistics. Money expended for schools \$5,573 76; of this sum \$189 59 from the state fund, and \$134 17 from the dog fund. Money expended over the appropriation, \$25 49. Whole number of scholars in all the schools 474. Increase over last year 48. Average cost per scholar \$11 76. Average wages of female teachers \$30 50. By the increase of appropriation the Primary and Grammar grades have run two weeks longer than usual. Owing to the number of scholars in the Landing district we thought it best to re-open the school there.

Repairs. The Landing school house had to be considerably repaired before it could be occupied, incurring an expense of \$73 38. The buildings at Merrimacport and at the Corner needed very much to have their walls whitened and painted. This work, with some other necessary repairs, has cost about \$140 00. These large repairs will explain why the money was overdrawn, and still the schools continue as long as the town expected. There are minor repairs always. See Incidentals.

School Accommodations. Steps should be taken at once to furnish two suitable school rooms. As is well known a room in Mechanics Hall has been occupied as a school room for nearly two years. This was merely intended for temporary occupancy. It should not be considered in any other light. It is impossible to make it a suitable school room either in regard to light, shape, ventilation, locality or surroundings. At the opening of the schools in April we shall expect about 85 scholars in addition to those who will be accommodated in the school building.

Teachers. Less changes have occurred with our teachers the past year than usual. Most of our teachers reside in town. We are glad we can speak words of commendation as to their faithfulness and efficiency. No time since the division of the town have we had a better corps of instructors than now. The basis of good schools is "to secure and retain the services of the best teachers."

Music. During the year musical instruction has been given at the Corner in the Primary and Grammar grades. The two Primary schools uniting for a lesson, and the Intermediate and Grammar uniting. A lesson given once a week. Miss Stella Larkin has been teacher. Heretofore musical in-

struments have been hired for one dollar a month each. The Committee thought the town was too poor to spend money in that way. As instruments are considered necessary to lead the singing in a school room, it was considered money-saving to own them. So two suitable ones were purchased last summer for \$80. One to be paid for this year, and the other next year. In the purchase of these organs valuable assistance was rendered by Mr. Bailey Sargent. These instruments should last twenty-five years. Enough would be paid for two hired ones in five years to pay for both of them. On this basis it would cost five times as much to hire as it would to own.

High School. The importance of raising the grade of the High School has been a matter of consideration for two or three years. The object of this change is not so much to increase the number of studies as the time to be devoted to them. What we all want is a school that will afford the advantages of a good, practical education for all who desire to avail themselves of it without the expense of going away from home for it. While the law requires Latin to be taught in our High School, parents who desire their children to pursue only an English course, have the privilege of doing so. Such scholars as cannot avail themselves of the full course, have the choice of selecting such studies as will be especially beneficial to them in the future.

That all may know the revised course of study we give it as follows:

First Year. Arithmetic, Physiology and Book-keeping; English Grammar, first term; Composition second and third terms.

Second Year. Philosophy, Algebra, Latin Reader and Grammar, and English History.

In the English course Geology in place of Latin.

Third Year. Geometry, Ancient History, English Literature and Cæsar.

In the English course Zoölogy instead of Latin. By permission French can be studied instead of Ancient History.

Fourth Year. Chemistry and Virgil through the year. Astronomy and Botany first and second terms; third term, Constitution of the United States and general English review. In the English course, Trigonometry and Surveying in place of Latin. By permission French can be pursued this year by dropping one of the above studies

Reading, Spelling, Drawing and Writing throughout the course.

Appropriation. It is very desirable to have the Primary and Grammar grades continue as long as they have this year. If a new school should be established, nearly \$300 more will be required. So your Committee would ask for an appropriation of \$5,500.

H. J. CUSHING,	} School Committee.
T. H. HOYT,	
WILLIAM CHASE.	

MERRIMAC HIGH SCHOOL.

FRANK WIGGIN PRINCIPAL.

MISS HELEN SPOFFORD, ASSISTANT.

The school has not been so large this year as usual. The cause of this mainly is that no class entered last summer. Also within a year several boys have left for work.

The course of study as now arranged is given in the general report. In deciding upon the course of instruction to be

pursued the two objects of study, the acquisition of knowledge and the development of the intellect, have been constantly kept in mind. It is not claimed that the course is perfect. Doubtless time will point out changes that should be made. There are occasional instances where there are good reasons that scholars should be excused from pursuing some of the studies laid down in the course. Such cases will always be treated as reason would dictate.

Both Principal and Assistant have been untiring in their school-work. Their aim has been to be thorough and practical. The progress of the school has been very satisfactory. No one visiting the school can say that it is not well managed. No school is better disciplined. Without good discipline the best instruction would be poor.

The oral examination at the close of last year, by the committee and others present, was considered very good indeed. The written examinations of the year have also given good satisfaction.

MERRIMAC GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MISS ELLEN GUNNISON, TEACHER.

It is hardly necessary to say more of this school, than that Miss Gunnison has been its teacher through the year.

To inspire the pupils with an interest in their school duties, is one of the marks of every really competent teacher, at least of a school of this grade; that Miss Gunnison has eminently succeeded in awakening and maintaining such interest, there is no doubt.

The scholars have not only acquired thorough knowledge

from text-books, but have been trained to habits of exact thought.

We can truly say that the progress of the school through the year has been satisfactory in every respect.

MERRIMAC INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

MISS M. ELLA HOYT, TEACHER.

Miss Hoyt, who entered this school at the beginning of the winter term of 1882, has continued to teach through the present year.

Miss Hoyt is a teacher who is interested in the welfare of her school, and who spares no effort to secure its prosperity. Most of the scholars have been in sympathy with the teacher, and it is but fair to say that they have made good progress in their studies. By firm though gentle methods of discipline, quiet and order have prevailed.

We hope that parents and friends will manifest an interest in the school by more frequent visits.

MERRIMAC FIRST PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS CARRIE EVANS, TEACHER.

This school has had a prosperous year. The school has been well disciplined and well instructed. Not often do we find a teacher more devoted to her pupils. Her methods of instruction are practical and thorough. At the different examinations through the year there has been good evidence of faithful work. And the results of this work have been very satisfactory indeed.

MERRIMAC SECOND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS JOSEPHINE OAK, TEACHER.

Miss Oak is one of those teachers who is in the right place. Every thing indicates that the teacher loves her pupils, and the pupils love their teacher. When this harmony exists in a Primary school we may reasonably expect the minutiae of a good school to follow. We find she has labored diligently to make her school a success; and to have the little ones do well in every sense of the word. She has succeeded well. This school is quite large, numbering in all 50.

MERRIMAC THIRD PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS FANNIE L. SHERMAN, } Teachers.
MISS ETTA H. COLBY. }

Miss Sherman taught during the summer, the whole number of scholars being *fifty-six*. This was her first experience in teaching, and she gave evidence of possessing the tact and ability of the successful teacher. By reason of her illness Miss Sherman was unable to resume her school in the fall, and it was under the care of Miss Colby the rest of the year. The whole number of scholars during the winter term was *seventy-two*. This gathering of so many young children, many of whom were totally inexperienced in school life, can hardly be dignified by the name of *school*. At the beginning of the fall term, the number of scholars demanded that a new school, a Fourth Primary, be established; but the committee unable to secure a suitable place for such a school, were obliged to submit to the evil of allowing so many children to crowd into a room, which is not suitable even for a

school of ordinary size. Any attempt to organize a school of so many scholars of the age of these, must result in failure. When we consider that there will be *eighty-five* or *ninety* scholars in the spring entitled to school privileges, and that the basement of Mechanics Hall is the only room provided for their accommodation, the outlook is not a pleasing one to the parents of these children or to the school committee; and certainly such a state of affairs is not creditable to the town. We trust that by this time the town realizes the necessity of immediate action in providing additional school accommodations.

MERRIMACPORT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MR. EDWIN S. BAILEY,	} Teachers.
MISS MARY E. ROGERS,	
MR. CHAS. S. DAVIS.	

Mr. Bailey who had kept this school the year previous, commenced it again this year. After several weeks he was taken sick and left the school in care of his wife temporarily. As his health was not improving, by advice of his physician he gave up the school.

He did not show, while he was with the school this time, sufficient energy. The same lack of energy seemed to pervade the school, leaving little or no improvement.

In June we obtained the services of Miss Mary Rogers, of Lowell, who came to us well recommended. She showed a marked degree of energy, firmness, scholarship and disciplinary ability. And had she had physical ability, she must have met with success. But with several disorderly boys, with a disposition to be their own masters, which seemed to

have been culminating through the season without regard to their own good or the good of the school, rendered it next to an impossibility for a woman to make any marked improvement without the parents' coöperation to aid the teacher in the discipline and general welfare of her school.

Mr. Ch. S. Davis, of Lynn, who had been teaching school in Groveland and had come well recommended by the committee there, was employed in September to continue the school here. Mr. Davis soon found he had a hard school before him. The indolence and indifference previously contracted was still unrestrained with several boys, checking the advancement of the studious and the well disposed pupils. The public are able to judge where much of the fault lies. Will parents interest themselves in their children to check, so much as possible any tendency in this direction?

The committee are pleased to notice of late a favorable change in the habits of the class named above, and a more decided interest in the whole school. The teachers have devoted themselves heartily to their work, but owing to the circumstances named not so much advance has been made as has been desirable.

MERRIMACPORT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

MISS FLORENCE CARLETON, TEACHER.

This school still continues to prosper under the management of an earnest and energetic teacher. We have always been pleased with the discipline and good instruction. We are happy to say that, considering certain obstacles in the way, the school has made commendable progress. Absentee-

ism and tardiness with several scholars have been a great deal too much. We think parents are largely to blame in many cases.

MERRIMACPORT PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS ANNIE M. COLLINS, TEACHER.

This is the second year of Miss Collins in this school. She has proved herself well calculated to teach and manage little children. The improvement of the school has been very satisfactory. The harmony existing between teacher and pupil has made the room pleasant and attractive.

BEAR HILL SCHOOL.

MISS LINA SHERMAN, TEACHER.

Miss Sherman is an earnest, successful teacher. She has been interested in her work, and has labored faithfully for the progress of her pupils. Her thorough instruction and good discipline are very commendable. The school is somewhat difficult both in the discipline and the variety of ages requiring many recitations. But by her ability and tact it has been well managed.

Ten weeks of the fall term, Miss Sherman was absent from the school on account of the sickness of her sister. Miss Mabel Jones—a Normal School Graduate, was hired as substitute. Miss Jones labored hard and conscientiously for the good of her school.

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL.

MISS BESSIE VEAL, TEACHER.

Miss Veal has been teaching a good school. She has succeeded well both in her instruction and general government. Whenever the school was visited her drill and thoroughness were quite noticeable. Her purpose has been to have thoroughness and progress go hand in hand. By her perseverance and tact she has accomplished what was undertaken. At the closing examination it was very pleasing to see the excellent results of her faithful work.

BIRCH MEADOW SCHOOL.

MISS ELLA F. WILLEY, TEACHER.

This was Miss Willey's first school, and was taught by her through the year. The winter term was continued one week beyond the usual time.

If the teacher did not succeed in maintaining the best order, she did succeed in gaining what is so essential, the love of her scholars and the good will of parents. The few marks for absence and tardiness are evidence of the interest which has been manifested in the school.

We are pleased to give the names Sadie F. Sargent and Warren E. Sargent, as names of those who have been neither late or absent during the year.

LANDING SCHOOL.

MISS MATTIE A. HUGHES, TEACHER.

The school house here had been closed for several years

for lack of scholars. But in the spring there was a sufficient increase in the number of children to re-open the school. At the earnest request of the parents, the committee decided to do so. The school house was very much out of repair, and necessitated an outlay of about \$73. The school began the 17th of April. This has been Miss Hughes's first experience in teaching. She has proved herself qualified for the position, both in the discipline and in the instruction. Whenever the school has been visited, it has appeared very orderly. Progress has been commendable. The Register of this school shows many absent and tardy marks. We hope the parents will consider the many causes of irregular attendance; and remove them as far possible in the coming year.

TABLE NO. ONE.
STATISTICS OF SUMMER TERM.

Schools.	Number of Scholars.	Average No. of Scholars.	Average Attendance.	Number of Days in term.	Number of Times Late.	Number of Scholars over 15 years.	Number of Scholars under 5 years.	Number of Visitors.	Teachers, Wages per Month.	Prin. Asst.
Merrimac High,	52	49 ⁹ ₁₀	46	65	106	26		29	\$100 00	
" Grammar,	36	35 ¹ ₂	34	60	52			26	38 00	
" Intermediate,	33	32 ² ₃	30 ² ₃	60	37			21	40 00	
" First Primary,	34	31	29 ¹ ₂	60	16			26	35 00	
" Second Primary,	49	46	40 ¹ ₂	60	35			44	30 00	
" Third Primary,	56	50	36	60	73		3	62	30 00	
Merrimacport Grammar,	32	30	27	60	173	5		18	26 00	
" Intermediate,	23	21	19	60	25			17	50 00	
" Primary,	33	32 ¹ ₄	29	60	91			13	31 00	
Bear Hill,	50	43	40	60	84			32	30 00	
Ilighland,	16	13 ¹ ₄	12	60	105	2	1	16	35 00	
Birch Meadow,	20	19	16	60	7	1		34	22 00	
Landing,	21	20	16	55	106	1	1	26	22 00	

TABLE NO. TWO.

STATISTICS OF FALL AND WINTER TERMS.

Schools.	N number of Scholars.	Average No. of Scholars.	Average Attendance.	Number of Days in term.	Number of Times Late.	Number of Scholars over 15 years.	Number of Scholars under 5 years.	Number of Visitors.	Teachers' Wages per Month.	Prin. Asst.
Merrimac High,	42	38 ¹ / ₂	36	125	199	19		22	\$100 00	
“ Grammar,	38	35	32 ¹ / ₂	120	107			50	38 00	
“ Intermediate,	33	29 ¹ / ₂	27 ¹ / ₂	115	88			42	40 00	
“ First Primary,	37	32	29 ¹ / ₂	110	41			52	35 00	
“ Second Primary,	50	42 ¹ / ₂	35	110	46			55	30 00	
“ Third Primary,	72	53	49	86	134	4		70	30 00	
Merrimacport Grammar,	29	24	22	120	201			28	26 00	
“ Intermediate,	31	27	25	115	83			27	45 00	
“ Primary,	31	27	23	110	156			43	31 00	
Bear Hill,	49	37	33 ¹ / ₃	100	24		1	27	30 00	
Highland,	20	17	16	70	83	3	1	13	35 00	
Birch Meadow,	21	20 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₄	70	4			23	22 00	
Landing,	20	18	17	73	119			22	22 00	

